

Dear Commissioners:

Stop hidden phone fees so I can truly compare prices of phone services. I support the petition filed by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and endorsed by other consumer advocacy organizations. CG Docket No. 04-208, Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Truth-In-Billing and Billing Format, is long overdue.

Phone bills should be truthful and easy to understand. Our phone bill is getting harder and harder to understand; what with this charge and that, we the people do not know if these extra charges are legal or not, and the only way is to research, surf the net and write to our elected officials. But there is only so much time in a day to achieve all of this and still run one's business and take care of all that matters in one's life. So we are asking the FCC to vote in favor of new rules that will make our phone bills easier to understand, and fair for all who use this country's many telecommunication services. We hope you make the right choice instead of siding with big business. We would kindly appreciate the right decision. Thank you.

Because this practice is tolerated by the FCC, long distance and wireless phone companies are able to hide the true cost of service. These add-ons make the advertised price of service significantly less than the amount of the check I have to write each month to pay the bill. Competition will not work if consumers cannot accurately compare prices when shopping for service.

Many states are stepping up to address this problem. They should be allowed to proceed. However, the FCC shouldn't shirk its responsibility, nor limit states from doing more.

The FCC should immediately grant the NASUCA petition to investigate billing practices, and prohibit phone and wireless companies from imposing separate monthly fees, line items or surcharges unless expressly mandated by law or the charge is expressly authorized by a governmental authority.